I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: March 19, 2009

Electronic Signature for William A. Di Bianca: /William A. Di Bianca/

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCON I (PATENT)

: Group Art Unit: 3738

: Examiner: B. E. Pellegrino

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Errico et al.

Application No.: 10/784,646

Filed: February 23, 2004

For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC TRIAL HAVING A CONTROLLABLY

SEPARABLE DISTAL END

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Dear Madam:

In response to the official action mailed November 19, 2008, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.